IN THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A method in a computer system for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework comprising the steps of:

    (a)   identifying at least one alliance among a plurality of business entities in terms of components of a current network framework;

    (b)   displaying a pictorial representation of the current network framework and the components; and

    (c)   conveying the at least one alliance by indicia coding the components of the current network framework in which the at least one alliance exists.

2.   (Original) A method for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited in claim 1, wherein the at least one alliance that is conveyed relates to features of the components of the current network framework.

3.   (Original) A method for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited in claim 2, wherein the features are listed in terms of the components to which the features relate.

4.   (Original) A method for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited in claim 3, wherein the features are indicia coded to convey the at least one alliance.

5.   (Original) A method for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited in claim 1, wherein the components of the current network framework are selected from the group of components including security services, network services, web services, client services, integration capabilities, data services, directory services, management services, operation services, and developer services.

6.   (Original) A method for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited in claim 1, wherein the components of the current network framework are selected from the group of components including commerce-

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related services, content-related services, administration-related services, customer-related services, and education-related services.

7. (Original) A method for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited in claim 1, wherein the indicia coding is selected from the group of indicia coding including texture coding, color coding, and shading coding.

8. (Original) A method for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited in claim 1, wherein the current network framework is a web architecture framework.

9. (Original) A method for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited in claim 1, wherein a legend is presented which defines the indicia coding with respect to the business entities.

10. (Previously Presented) A process for using a computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework comprising the steps of:

(a) executing a code segment that identifies at least one alliance among a plurality of business entities in terms of components of a current network framework;

(b) executing a code segment that displays a pictorial representation of the current network framework and the components; and

(c) executing a code segment that conveys the at least one alliance by indicia coding the components of the current network framework in which the at least one alliance exists.

11. (Previously Presented) A process of using a computer program for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited in claim 10, wherein the at least one alliance that is conveyed relates to features of the components of the current network framework.

12. (Previously Presented) A process of using a computer program for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited

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in claim 11, wherein the features are listed in terms of the components to which the features relate.

13. (Previously Presented) A process of using a computer program for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited in claim 12, wherein the features are indicia coded to convey the at least one alliance.

14. (Previously Presented) A process of using a computer program for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited in claim 10, wherein the components of the current network framework are selected from the group of components including security services, network services, web services client services, integration capabilities, data services, directory services, management services, operation services, and developer services.

15. (Previously Presented) A process of using computer program for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited in claim 10, wherein the components of the current network framework are selected from the group of components including commerce-related services, content-related services, administration-related services, customer-related services, and education-related services.

16. (Previously Presented) A process of using a computer program for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited in claim 10, wherein the indicia coding is selected from the group of indicia coding including texture coding, color coding, and shading coding.

17. (Previously Presented) A process of using a computer program for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited in claim 10, wherein the current network framework is a web architecture framework.

18. (Previously Presented) A process of using a computer program for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework as recited in claim 10, further comprising the step of executing a code segment that presents a legend that defines the indicia coding with respect to the business entities.

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19.   (Previously Presented) A method of using a system for identifying alliances among a plurality of business entities in components of a network framework, the method comprising the steps of:

    (a)   activating a device for identifying at least one alliance among a plurality of business entities in terms of components of a current network framework;

    (b)   activating a device for displaying a pictorial representation of the current network framework and the components; and

    (c)   activating a device for conveying the at least one alliance by indicia coding the components of the current network framework in which the at least one alliance exists.